

## Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EB-07 ISO-00 /020 W  
----- 026848

R 191411Z FEB 76  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
TO USDOC WASHBC  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7813

UNCLAS VIENNA 1305

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: BEXP, AU  
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON RUDOLF BRIXNER, OBERNDORF,  
AUSTRIA

1. EMBASSY HAS LETTER DATED JANUARY 22 FROM RICHARD F. LANKENAU,  
BUREAU OF INTL DEVELOPMENT, STATE OF FLORIDA DEPT. OF COMMERCE,  
CORAL GABLES, STATING HIS OFFICE HAS RECEIVED REQUEST FROM GROUP  
OF LOCAL BUSINESSMEN CONNECTED WITH THE COAL INDUSTRY FOR INFORMATION  
ON SUBJECT. ACCORDING LANKENAU, BRIXNER STATES HE MANUFACTURES  
STEEL PRODUCTS INCLUDING BARBED WIRE WHICH HE SELLS WIDELY IN  
EUROPE AND OVERSEAS; ALSO, THAT HE IS REPRESENTING CONSORTIUM  
OF LARGE GERMAN STEEL COMPANIES INCLUDING MANNESMANN FOR PURPOSE  
OF SEARCHING OUT SOURCES OF METALLURGICAL GRADE COAL IN U.S. AND  
ELSEWHERE. LANKENAU ASKS FOR ANY INFO REGARDING BRIXNER, ES-

PECIALLY HIS BUSINESS CONNECTIONS IN GERMANY.

2. EMBASSY PREPARED LENGTHY WTDR IN FEBRUARY 1970 ON BRIXNER'S  
FIRM, SALZACH METALL GES. M.B.H., A-5110 OBERNDORF B. SALZBURG.  
WE ASSUME THAT THIS WTDR (WHICH ADVISES "OBSERVANCE OF CUSTOMARY  
COMMERCIAL PRECAUTIONS") IS STILL ON FILE IN COMMERCE. IF NOT,  
EMBASSY WOULD BE PLEASED AIRMAIL COPY DIRECTLY TO LANKENAU AT  
COMMERCE REQUEST.

3. ACCORDING TO SALZBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, A SEMI-OFFICIAL  
INSTITUTION, BRIXNER OWNS SMALL PLANT PRODUCING BARBED WIRE  
WHICH IS MAINLY EXPORTED TO MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES. CHAMBER  
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COULD NOT CONFIRM ALLEGED CONTACTS BETWEEN BRIXNER AND GERMAN

STEEL INDUSTRY AND RECOMMENDED OBSERVANCE OF USUAL COMMERCIAL PRECAUTIONS IN DEALING WITH HIM.

4. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS BRIXNER HAS TOLD EMBASSY EMPLOYEE THAT HE HAS CLOSE BUSINESS CONTACTS WITH THE NATIONAL STEEL CORP. AND U.S. STEEL CORP., BOTH IN PITTSBURGH, PA. HE ALSO HAS CLAIMED TO HAVE THE EXCLUSIVE SALES RIGHTS FOR METALLURGICAL COAL PRODUCED IN SEVERAL SOUTH CAROLINA MINES. HE HAS NEVER PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH ANY EVIDENCE CONFIRMING HIS ALLEGED RELATIONS WITH EITHER THE U.S. OR GERMAN STEEL FIRMS. ON OTHER HAND, EMBASSY HAS HAD NO REASON TO ASK FOR SUCH EVIDENCE.

5. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED RELAY ABOVE INFO TO LANKENAU. EMBASSY WOULD BE PLEASED INITIATE WTDR REVISION ON REQUEST. BUCHANAN

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## Message Attributes

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